

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested. Claims 1, 11, 20, 30, and 35 have been amended. No claims have been canceled or added. As such, claims 1-8, 11-15, and 20-38 remain pending in the present application.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowability of claims 28 and 33-36 if rewritten in independent form and including the features of the base claim. Claim 35 has been amended to be in independent form as suggested by the Examiner.

The drawings are objected to as being of poor quality. Attached hereto are drawings of a higher quality in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 11, 20-27, 29-32, and 37-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,330,976 to Dymetman et al. ("Dymetman"). Claims 1 and 20 have been amended to recite, in part, that "a unique position on the address pattern is identified from an examination of a portion of the address pattern." Claims 11 and 30 recite, in part, the feature of "identifying a unique position on the address pattern from an examination of a portion of the address pattern."

In contrast, Dymetman teaches that localization identifies a cell zone on the page, not a point on the page. *See* Dymetman, col. 13, lines 18-19. Applicants respectfully submit that the location information of Dymetman identifies the location of a cell on a page, not a unique position on an address pattern as required by the independent claims of the present application. Dymetman teaches that with this encoding, a complete cell must be within the region of the page from whose image a page-identifier and location code are to be obtained. ***Less than a complete cell does not contain sufficient information.*** *See* Dymetman, col. 13, lines 20-24. Therefore, the image of a complete cell must be detected in order to determine a page identifier and a location code associated with a particular cell. In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that there is no teaching or suggestion by Dymetman that the markings in each of the plurality of cells collectively form an address pattern on the page. Applicants submit that Dymetman does not teach or suggest that a unique position on the address pattern is identified from an examination of a portion of the address

pattern as recited in claims 1, 11, 20, and 30. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 11, 20, and 30 distinguish over Dymetman and request that the §102 rejection of claims 1, 11, 20, and 30 be withdrawn.

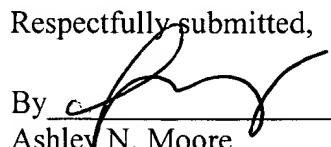
Claims 21-27, 29-32, and 37-38 are either directly or indirectly dependent on one of claims 20 and 30 and should distinguish over Dymetman for at least the same reasons as stated above. Applicants respectfully request that the §102 rejection of claims 21-27, 29-32, and 37-38 be withdrawn.

Claims 2-8 and 12-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dymetman in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,509,692 to Oz ("Oz"). Claims 2-8 and 12-15 are either directly or indirectly dependent from one of claims 1 and 11 and should distinguish over Dymetman for at least the same reasons as stated above. Oz does not remedy the deficiencies of claims 1 and 11 in that Oz does not teach that a unique position on the address pattern is identified from an examination of a portion of the address pattern as recited in claims 1 and 11. Oz has merely been cited for the purpose of teaching a negotiable instrument. *See* Office Action, page 7. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-8 and 12-15 distinguish over the combination of Dymetman and Oz and request that the §103 rejection of claims 2-8 and 12-15 be withdrawn.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: 8/10/04

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments